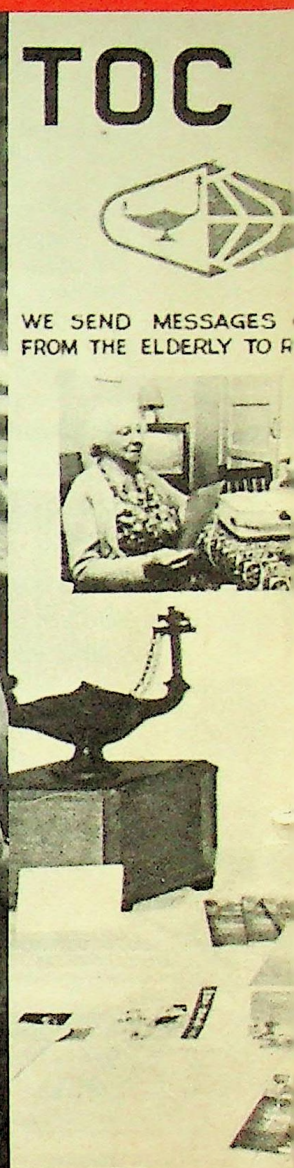
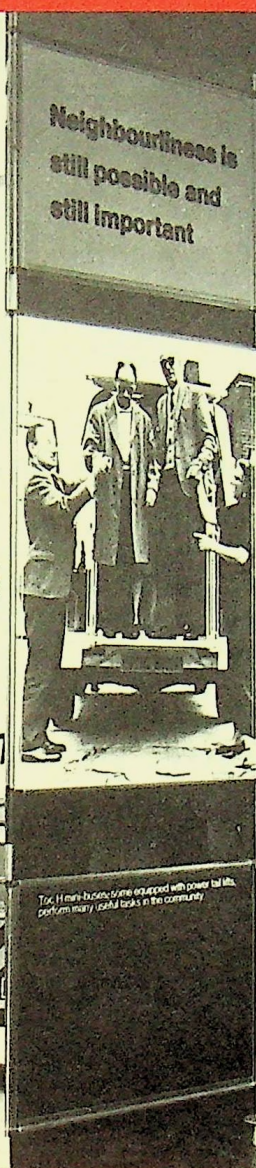
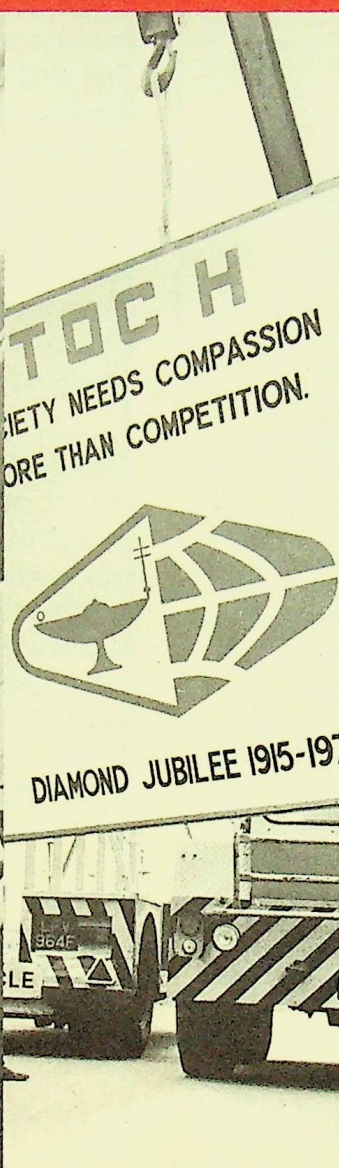


TOC H ANNUAL REPORT 1975-6

The Annual Report of Toc H for the year ended 31 March 1976 to be presented at the Central Council meeting on 6 November 1976



FROM THE CHAIRMAN

'All candy-floss and alleluias' was how someone once dismissed Annual Reports. He had had his fill of them!

While you may have some sympathy with him, I think you will feel that any such derisory criticism of this Report would be very much out of place. Alleluias you will certainly find. And why not? Thanksgiving for work well done, and the ability to do it, should be joyous and free. As for candy-floss, if, as seems likely, he meant preoccupation with the superficial, the trivial, and even an unwillingness to face facts, particularly when they are unpleasant, here he would, in my view, be disappointed. However, don't take my word for it: read the Report.

Last year's Report quite rightly laid emphasis upon our Diamond Jubilee and the sense of purpose and new-found confidence it engendered. Some must have wondered whether this would be sustained in the year that followed. I believe it has been. There is much in the Report which testifies to this although we have a long way to go before all the hopes then expressed become reality.

The vast problems confronting society today must sometimes cause us to question how we can contribute towards their solution. We perhaps hope for the spectacular to happen; that on some grand scale we shall be instrumental in bringing about, in next to no time, great changes for good in the community at large. But in our more sober moments we know that this is not our way. We are concerned with people as persons and it is at the personal level that our best — and most lasting — contribution will continue to be made.

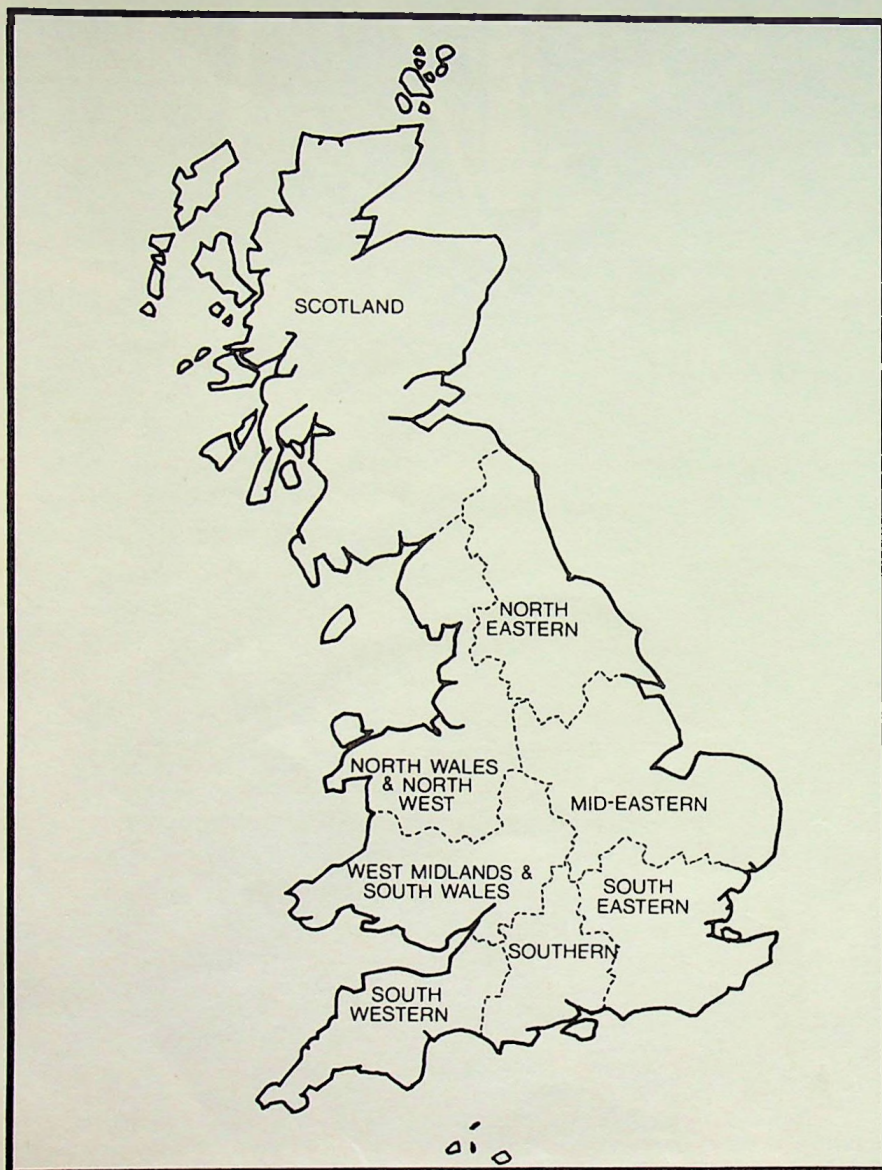
Such an approach does not border on the quiescent, as some observers might suppose, any more than did the memorable entry in the log-book of the 'Santa Maria', the ship in which Christopher Columbus set out to discover America: 'Today we sailed on . . .'

Though these words alone tell us little, set against the background of the situation in which they were written, they speak volumes. Hope burned very low on the day that entry was made. It certainly looked as though those who had derided him for his 'mad' plan were right. Had he really been following a dream that could never be realised? Many weeks had passed and still no land came into view, for the land they had left had long since passed from sight, and the land they sought — could it really be there at all? Yet, in spite of the grumblings of his crew, despite their ridicule of his dream, Columbus's faith held like a sheet-anchor. His faith was in one who would see him right through until he reached the port of his endeavour. Only such faith, triumphing over all, can find perfect expression in the quiet, determined phrase, 'Today we sailed on'.

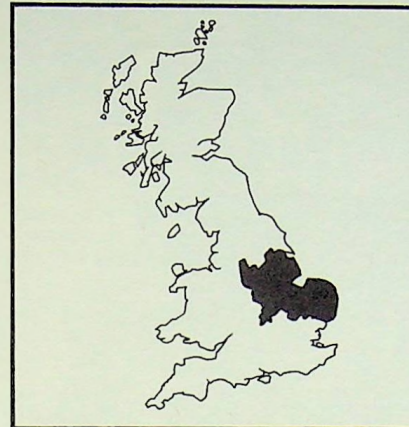
May that faith and confidence be ours also.

Cyril Cattell
Chairman

IN THE REGIONS



Mid-Eastern Region



The past year has been one of consolidation for the Region, but we can see encouraging signs of the beginnings of real growth, not as yet by a large increase in membership or branches, but by a growing belief in Toc H and an awareness of the challenges facing us.

While the agreed structure of regionalisation has challenged us all and in some places created 'problems', Districts generally have adapted to suit their local needs and as a result brought new meaning and purpose to the life of the District.

The untiring work of the Regional Executive and the staff was greatly strengthened in August by the welcomed arrival of the Rev Crispin White in Peterborough, which enabled the Regional Executive Committee to move John Biggerstaff to Leicester and start the process of staff deployment to a more localised working.

The wealth of Crispin's talents — not only

as a padre — has encouraged us all to develop the continuing need for extension and growth, not only through the many and varied continuing activities of members working in branches and alone, but in some new avenues of involvement.

Agreement was reached during the year for the Region to exhibit at The Royal Norfolk, Lincolnshire and East of England County Shows in 1976 and in co-operation with the South Eastern Region at the Essex Show.

Thanks to the inspiration of John Biggerstaff, ably assisted by Crispin, the REC approved the production of a new booklet entitled *Patterns for People*, for use at these County Shows and throughout the Region.

The Summer activities programme was widened to include for the first time a purely leisure project called 'Birds in the Belfry', a week of exploration into the historic places of worship and a look at the wealth of bird life in East Anglia, which proved a great success.

The year has seen summer and weekend activities become mainly District based. Also the formation of the Norfolk Activities Committee (covering five Districts), responsible for all residential projects in the county.

Many new friends have been made and with the organisational structure devolving to a more local level it has enabled Districts to effect a more positive follow-up of volunteers. Also a greater co-operation and exchange of ideas between Districts is developing.



Photo: Eastern Daily Press

The highly successful Anglia Knit-in raised £8,000 for Toc H and NSPCC in Norfolk. Toc H will now be able to finance three one-week camps for underprivileged children in the area. As a result of the Knit-in over 50 blankets were presented to a refuge for battered wives and children in Norwich.



Photo: Sue Cumming

One project organised in the Mid-Eastern Region is the Loughborough playscheme for mentally handicapped children. Volunteers come together for one week in the summer to organise activities for the children of Ashmount School thus helping to relieve the strain of long summer holidays.

Members in Leicester have moved into their new 'home' at 22 Princess Road and are encouraging its use by other organisations, thus establishing a living centre in the community to extend their involvement and widen their horizons.

In November we welcomed Alison Wright (long-term volunteer) to work in Peterborough, investigating the need for a Volunteer Bureau in the City. In three months she was able to produce evidence to enable the Steering Committee to discuss the necessity for such a Bureau with the City authorities.

The contacts already made in Peter-

borough have produced an encouraging request from the Church for Toc H to become more deeply involved in the new Bretton Estate, (15,000 population). To make this possible the Church has made available to us the free use of a three-bedroomed house on the Estate until August 1977 and Kevin Lindsay-Smith will join us shortly to undertake this important short term appointment.

An exciting finish to the year happened in Norfolk and the northern borders of Suffolk where Toc H in conjunction with the NSPCC undertook a gigantic sponsored 'Knit-In' in 53 different centres, which raised some £8,000 to be divided

equally between the two organisations. The joy and value of two voluntary bodies working harmoniously together was proved and the opportunities which the event has opened for the future are tremendous.

New feelings of confidence for the future are apparent and the REC with the staff, have plans to develop these on a more local basis throughout the Region in the year ahead.

Regional Chairman Alan Brooke takes a slide! The occasion, the handing over of the Toc H Diamond Jubilee Playing Field to the local council at Beck Row, Mildenhall in Suffolk as a play area for local children.

North Eastern Region



At the time of writing the North Eastern Region has a new Chairman and so as retiring Chairman I am making this a personal report, and wish to take the opportunity of thanking membership, both staff and lay, for their efforts and Dick Stayman for his support as Secretary.

The increased contributions to the Family Purse show confidence in the Region and I appreciate the extra effort. Bill Barnes made an appeal for a greater interest in Alexandra Rose Day and we have seen some quite wonderful results: a remarkably easy way of additional fund raising.

Since the last report much has happened for which to give thanks. Colin Gregg's confidence in the future of Talbot House, Newcastle, and the dedicated work of his staff and himself, has been justified: it is well to remember that this began with a vision at Alnmouth where young people, some of whom later joined the staff of Talbot House, saw what might be achieved.

The variety of people discovering the particular value of Colsterdale is still increasing and this year includes people on Community Service Orders, besides all the 'regulars'. At the time of writing



Photo: Cambridge Evenings News



Stan Whithead is 'in residence' as Warden for this season, which is fully booked again. Colsterdale justifies the dedication of its Committee.

The Ayresome Park 'Shindig' happened in Middlesbrough, where Sue Leigh, our latest staff appointment, is placed with the Ecumenical Community project. It's early days yet, but beginnings are seen in an Easter playscheme, a junior youth club and a mother and toddlers' club. The two caravans for family holidays are still at Berwick. The Teesside District is having a weekend at Brockley Hall, Saltburn, in May.

In Huddersfield the Community Care and Concern Project is making an impact on the local community and long-term volunteer Roger Goldsmith is already building on this. Some youngsters from one-parent families will have a weekend at Colsterdale, others at Bridlington, in co-operation with local Toc H.

The mentally handicapped project based on the Highfields Special School will be repeated this summer plus a residential scheme housed at Meltham, to be run by Richard Jackson. The Senior Citizens' Afternoon Tea Club, now well established, had its Christmas party and is organising a day's outing for itself. A Toc H Exhibition will be held in Huddersfield in September.

In South Yorkshire the Kimberworth Library Project is exceeding its original purpose in concern for the housebound. The Sheffield Swimming Group is taking 5-11 year olds to Colsterdale in April and Toc H exhibitions are to be held locally.

A Christmas party on the Stainbeck Estate, Leeds, will be followed by a playscheme

It's the Mrs Mop line up at the Ayresome 'Shindig' in Middlesbrough when the whole neighbourhood turned out for street parties.

this summer run by volunteers and mums. Bradford NSPCC children will have a weekend at Colsterdale in July with volunteers mainly from Bradford.

In Scarborough a Christmas party on the Eastfield Estate will be followed by a summer playscheme run by the Eastfield Group and volunteers.

We look forward to the 1976 Yorkshire Festival at Selby in October and a further members' weekend at Alison House.

New Groups at Evenwood, Bishop Auckland, Clavering, Hartlepool and Eastfield as well as the North Tees Hospital Youth Group have been welcomed. The closing of various branches in the Region is regretted, but we give thanks for their years of service. Future growth points include the planned appointment of a volunteer organiser at South Tees Hospital, extension through industry and the future appointment of a member of staff in Selby.

Throughout the Region branches continue the extension of Toc H in their fellowship and local commitments, besides those 'unrecorded achievements' — the individual jobs carried out by so many members in so many ways. The value of the District Branch is being proved by the increasing interest of those concerned in District events.

In September Richard Jackson leaves our staff — our warmest thanks and best wishes for the future to Richard and Maggie. Our thanks also to Tommy Asquith (who *would* welcome more contributions!) for our excellent *Northern Light*.

Of one thing I am confident: Toc H is continuing to carry out its original

Part of the Huddersfield Community Care and Concern Project, the Bracken Hall old people's tea club celebrates its first anniversary.

purpose in passing on the spirit which began the Movement, particularly to young people who seek what we can offer. From these groups must come our *future* leadership: the present need for leaders, particularly for Central Councillors, still exists. To meet the need for new membership personal contact remains the best method.

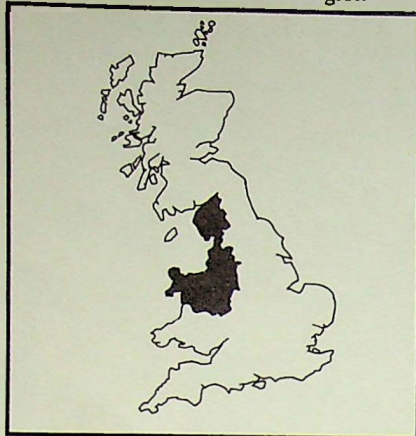
To conclude I feel that the foregoing proves that the North Eastern Region has thrived during the past year and intends to go forward building bravely for the future.

Colsterdale is growing increasingly popular. Here, Toc H members enjoy a week's holiday with some deaf children.



Photo: Huddersfield Examiner

North Wales and North West Region



The Jubilee has been celebrated throughout the Region and brought together many members and friends at large and small gatherings. A Jubilee display was featured in the Blackpool illuminations.

Training and publicity have featured prominently in the work of the Region this year and three successful meetings of members took place at St Annes on Sea, at Mold, and at Manchester. A special course was run for operators of the audio-visual equipment and this has already paid dividends in that those trained have booked the equipment for use in extension meetings. Huw Gibbs from HQ has been most helpful in this work, and in-

deed when in the Region was Guest Speaker on Border Television. The Marler Haley Exhibition Unit has been used extensively at: Vauxhall Motors; Ellesmere Port; Dalton in Furness; Morecambe; Clitheroe; Rochdale; the Eisteddfod at Criccieth (with Welsh literature); Llandudno Carnival; Shavington; Kidsgrove; Eccles; Sale; Poynton Show; and the Festival of Music in the Free Trade Hall, Manchester. A regional Tape Letter is in preparation for sending out to all Districts, to encourage the use of 'Topic on Tape' and to make for better communications between Region, District and branch.

There has been an encouraging growth of work with young people in East Lancs (the group there has a waiting list), Preston, Runcorn, Crewe, St Helens, Liverpool, and one branch in North Wales has ten members under 30 years of age, in fact a third of the branch membership. Youth Action Groups are growing and a recent weekend at Alison House was successful to the point that the young people prepared the programme and have appointed Liaison Officers to work in four different parts of the Region. A substantial growth is anticipated in the future. The training session at St Annes almost found itself on the mat; a Judo competition organised by Toc H and the YMCA was so well attended that meeting space was at a premium.

All the projects in the Region have filled up quickly with volunteers, and the Centres at Rhyl and Weirside are heavily booked. Young people from Belfast will again be at Rhyl. The Camp at Adlington will also have its full complement of customers from various parts of the country. The Camp at Pentrefelin and the Lakes

Lady Janet Douglas Pennant of Penrhyn receives a bouquet from Ruth Evans at the Llandudno Toc H Spring Fair, held to raise funds for our Port Penrhyn Jubilee centre.

are full with youngsters and volunteers. The work at Port Penrhyn proceeds satisfactorily and a grant of £5,000 from the Welsh Office and a very encouraging response from the membership in the Region make the furnishing and equipping of the Centre a reality.

Work is developing with the Probation Service at Blackburn, Burnley and Crewe where we are jointly setting up a Half Way House for offenders.

The membership is increasing in a number of branches, and two new groups have begun at Acrefair in the Offa's Dyke District, and at Llanfair-Harlech in the Gwynedd District. We have lost two branches at Carlisle and at Moston.

Gladstone House has set out on a new experiment — a self-catering residential community, with some 18 residents. A new committee of residents and members are finding a wider commitment in the house and in Liverpool.

Mark 4 Manchester is succeeding in paying its way and the residents have become involved in a new job, using the Toc H mini-coach to transport handicapped old people to a Social Centre. This involves work with the Social Services, the Area Health Authority, the Inskip League and the Ambulance Service. A gift of £100 has already been given by an interested charity.

A new opportunity is emerging for Toc H and the Church in Kirkby. A small resident team of workers are living and working in that Community, so that new skills and understanding of the problems that face that kind of difficult area may be shared and conquered.

A weekend at Blackpool has been arranged for Central Councillors from Scotland and this Region, to discuss the development of



Photo: Llandudno Advertiser

the Regional pattern. The Region will welcome the first ever meeting of the Central Executive in the Regions, and members of the Central Executive will be staying overnight with members in various Districts. On the following day, after the Central Executive meeting, all our Councillors will meet with them to look at our Movement in depth.

The staffing position in the Region has improved. Two new members of staff, Mike Plumb to work in North Wales and the Marches, and Jim Waltham to work in Manchester, join Alan Daniels and Frank Rice. This relatively new team, a new Regional Executive and four new

Central Councillors, have now a great opportunity to make a significant impact on the Region, and the best wishes of their colleague, Johnnie MacMillan, who retires from the staff this summer, go with them. Christine Bostock has moved to the South East Region.

The Region has lost in death a number of faithful and loyal members, including Canon Ernie Southcott, Ronnie Chadwick, Bert Oates, and Derek Stapley. We will remember them.

The Mayor plants a tree as part of the Toc H Jubilee celebrations in Blackburn and (below) Toc H in Lytham St Anne's takes to judo!

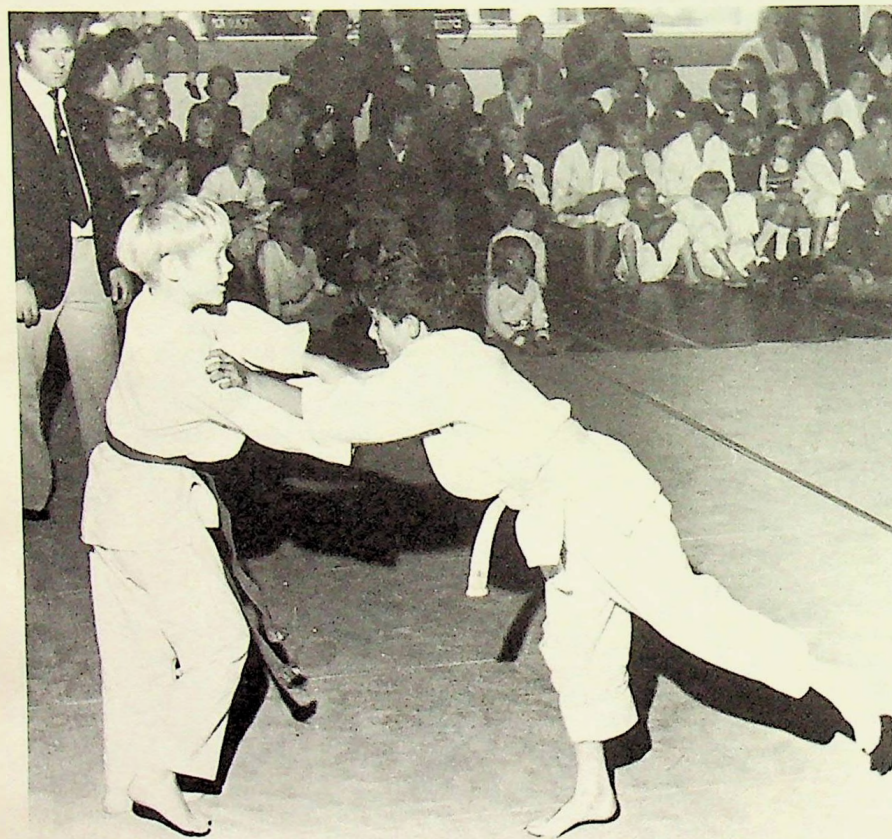


Photo: Blackpool Gazette and Herald



Photo: Evening Telegraph, Blackburn

Southern Region



Promises? Promises? By nature of the formation of the Region we had weighty administrative problems at the beginning and our first report last year reflected this. By now, we are able to say that by dint of the hard work put in by everyone in the Region, and by the wholehearted co-operation between staff and officers of all the committees at all levels we have overcome the problems. Our hopes have been amply fulfilled, though we might have done more if we had taken greater risks, but now we go forward with our aim to extend the purpose of Toc H to wider horizons. For the family of Toc H cannot be restricted by territorial boundaries and while we concentrate at present on

Districts (with greater management responsibility being taken by several District Executive Committees so that the staff are freer to plan for the future) we also draw inspiration from news of other Regions.

Further, the appointment and return of Bob Knight to our Region has been a great inspiration to the membership who have welcomed him greatly. With the help of Elizabeth Bacon and John Forbes, he has set up an 'Operation Wider Horizons' programme. The aim is for the staff jointly to visit every branch in the Region to get to know every member and friend, and it augurs well for the future co-operation of members and staff working together for the good of the Movement. In 1974 the two old Districts which are now combined as White Horse Vale set up a camping holiday for children from the Oakridge area of Basingstoke. This was repeated the following year together with a playscheme, run by the North Hants District, at the school concerned. This year, due to these initiatives and in part to the inspiration of the Middlesbrough Shindig, a Community Week is being arranged. A committee has been formed of parents and teachers from the school, and Toc H members from both Districts.

In Southampton, Mark 5 has been leased to Gingerbread and more than 50 one-parent families have been able to sort out their problems with the support they have found at the House. There is a strong Management Committee composed of Gingerbread members, social workers, marriage guidance counsellors and Toc H staff. The one year licence is being renewed this year to enable the work to be developed further. At Swindon, the closer relationship between the District and Mark 16 has justified expenditure on structural alterations, and it is hoped that improved facilities will bring about a

viable and lively Mark with benefits to the Hospital Broadcasting Association and the Scouts.

Jimmy Savile has put two caravans at our disposal at Rockley Sands near Poole Harbour, to be used by families with handicapped members. They will be available early this summer. Last year we had a children's camp on two of the islands in our region, the Isle of Wight and Jersey, and though small in number the branches on the islands contributed greatly in manpower effort and provisions. A spin-off of the camp at Jersey is that a number of the more boisterous and unlikely lads from Bath have been pleading for another camp. The Jersey camp is being repeated this year but with children from a different area. Other projects are also in process. Interest is being taken in the Adult Literacy Scheme. There is a lot of visiting between branches, and other small schemes for the extension of the Movement are in embryo. White Horse Vale are providing a different type of holiday for handicapped people.

These are just highlights of the many things that are going on in this Region. Now, a blow on our trumpet, for at the end of the financial year we were top of the league in average giving per member. We are immensely proud of this. The increased giving, even if still short of the target we have set ourselves, is a sign of our confidence in the future of the Movement.

Our hopes are high and we look forward to a future of hard work but more results in our efforts to bring His Kingdom on Earth, but realise that there must be intake before output. A 'Quiet Day' has been arranged in Winchester for all members and friends in the Region. Let us sow the seeds that we hope will bring to life the Four Points and the Prayer of St Francis.



Photo: Wiltshire Newspapers

Swindon District presented a chairmobile to the Swindon Beavers for the disabled. Here, a delighted Mr Rogers hands round cigars to some of the Toc H members.



There were 100 participants on the three-week summer playscheme organised by Toc H in Basingstoke, a town reputed to be the fastest growing in the UK.



Photos: Scott Shaw



South Eastern Region



It is difficult to decide what takes pride of place in this report, but we feel that the formation of the new Inner London District in July 1975 was a particularly significant event. For far too long the centre of the Metropolis had been something of a 'twilight zone' as far as Toc H was concerned and therefore we are pleased to say that the new District has been very successful right from the start. This has been mainly due to the hard work of those of our staff who are based in Central London and who have drawn together all expressions of Toc H. It is indeed most appropriate that the fortnightly meetings are held under the title 'New Venture' and what has been a particular joy is the spirit of fellowship and co-operation which is now evident between branches, Marks and volunteer groups.

Another great occasion for the Region was the opening in November of the new Toc H Youth Centre at Prideaux House in Hackney, the formal ceremony being performed by our Vice-Patron The Hon Angus Ogilvy. This event fulfilled the hopes not only of the local membership, but also of the many friends of the Hackney Mark. It has been their enthus-



Photo: Herts Advertiser, St Albans

iasm and encouragement together with the invaluable help of the ILEA which has turned the dream into reality.

There was one Regional happening which was held for the first time, namely the Christmas Carol Concert at All Hallows attended by over 300 members, their families and friends. The undeniable success of this has indicated that it should be an annual event in the Regional calendar and a date has already been fixed for this year. We record our thanks to the Vicar, organist and Church Council of All Hallows and of course to the Reverend John Hull and all those helpers and participants who made it such a memorable afternoon.

The year has seen some retirements from the Regional staff but on the other hand we have managed to obtain some new recruits and have in fact increased our numerical strength. We are, however, very conscious that our membership north of the Thames is very poorly served by staff and we hope that this situation will be remedied before very much longer.

It is indeed pleasing to be able to say how much we appreciate the great efforts

which the Marks are making in their contribution towards keeping the Regional Income and Expenditure Account in a healthy state. In view of the present economic climate this is a tremendous achievement and reflects great credit on Marks-men and women, Management Committees and Wardens.

During the past year we have seen Districts endeavouring to cope with the new administrative structure and although many problems have arisen we are confident that these can be eradicated. Despite all these difficulties the Region is beginning to shape its own identity and the membership are coming to realise that the future of Toc H rests squarely on their shoulders. This was amply demonstrated when the Regional staff and Executive shared a residential weekend together and a new understanding was forged between them.

What of the coming year? The empty Notting Hill Mark is to be refurbished and eventually opened as a hostel for young Bengalis working in London. This scheme, which has the blessing of the Central Executive, is an extension of the work which has been carried out so successfully on Tower Hill for some time now. The



Photo: Jeff Bird

It's cakes for the asking at the May Day Sale in St Albans and (above) the bells are ringing for the Inner London District's New Venture evenings!

House will remain the property of Toc H who will be represented on the management committee of this experimental venture.

In Crawley another scheme is getting off the ground. This is to provide a Residential Leadership Training Centre for young adolescents in such a way that the incidence of violence and vandalism may be significantly reduced. It is primarily aimed at those who have no contact with youth organisations and who tend to gyrate to the nearest street lamp-post. The driving force behind this is The Rev Edgar Wallace, who joined the staff in January, and we wish him every success in this venture. A building has already been found for this work and will be called Clayton House.

On the basis of these two schemes alone there is every reason for us to look forward with hope and for all of us in the Region to dedicate ourselves to the tasks which lie ahead so that we can truly work for His Kingdom in the wills of men.



Photos: Scott Shaw

(Above) It's laughter all the way at the Saffron Walden mini-handi dance.
(Right) Angus Ogilvy, Toc H Vice Patron, joins in the fun at the opening of the new Toc H Youth Centre in Hackney.



Photo: Hackney Gazette

South Western Region



The Region's year opened with our Diamond Jubilee Festival at Exeter, about which much has already been written and spoken. With over 500 members and friends attending, it turned out to be the largest Toc H gathering in this part of the country for many a long year. Even to those not enamoured with really large gatherings this one certainly made the Region feel like a viable family within the greater Family.

Our 'priority' efforts at extension, easily our greatest single need in this Region, blew a fuse and have been abandoned for the present. New efforts are planned however and, one hopes, with larger

fuse wire. Balanced against this must be the spontaneous eruption in Cornwall, of all places, which has produced an enthusiastic new women's group at Troon. Also several branches have recruited new members during the year; notable among these are Crewkerne, Budleigh Salterton, Ilminster and Bideford.

Districts have held innumerable get-togethers up and down the Region, ranging from an evening 'do' to a full weekend in North Devon. Our padres have communed together at Dor Knap and during a day meeting at Wellington. Plans are now complete for our Regional Weekend at Babbacombe, Torquay, when we welcome

Padre Norman Motley as our principal speaker. The men's weekend at Dor Knap was greatly appreciated. The house was not full but bookings this year suggest a full house in June; we expect to have members from Swindon, Chiseldon and Twickenham with us. These places do not appear on our map but they must exist for we have friends from there. Not to be outdone, the women have arranged a weekend for themselves at Almondsbury in April next. All these gatherings combine fellowship with some aspect of training. Perhaps the number one social event in the year is the Wine and Cheese Party in the Guildhall at Chard, a fellowship-cheese-fellowship sandwich laced with red or white.

The particular efforts of our Training Working Party towards improved branch programmes, a panel of speakers and the training of District officers at District level have filtered through and plans should be well under way ere long. The aforesaid speakers met for a weekend at Othona under the baton of Huw Gibbs. They learned techniques quite new to them, including how to wind up. Another gathering at Wellington discussed the question of Action Groups and District members as a means of pursuing more lively Toc H. Five pilot schemes were planned in five Districts and one or two of these are gathering momentum already.

Volunteers from Plymouth have been involved in preparing the bungalow at Perranporth to receive holiday visitors. This work continues, under local Toc H management, to cater for families in need.

(Left) A happy scene at the Toc H Autumn Sale arranged by Yeovil and Sherborne Branch. The sale raised £90 for Toc H funds. (Right) Hatchets at the ready! The 191 Shirehampton Cub-Scouts enjoy the local carnival, which raised funds for Scouts and a local Toc H holiday for the blind.



Photo: I. Middleton, Western Gazette

Likewise, Adams House, the home of Torquay Branch, is standing by again for those who find it almost impossible to afford a holiday in these inflated times. In a somewhat different vein, Toc H House, Exeter, continues to provide accommodation (non-profit making) for other charities, currently Cancer Campaign and RSPB. There is room for another now that the Samaritans have moved to larger premises made available by the local authority. Projects and leadership training have continued apace. A new effort has been the taking over of the 'sheltered housing' development at Trewint Gardens, Bristol by volunteers: a weekend playscheme for senior citizens,

by all accounts. Another project worthy of mention and one of our most successful, is at the psychiatric hospital at Barrow, now in its fifth year. The Regional Executive felt that it should embark on a Regional project which would involve most districts in one form or other and decided to run a six week's course for PHAB. This will take place at Rolle College, Exmouth at the end of March and arrangements are already well in hand.

The death of Harry Olver was a sad blow from which we shall not fully recover for a very long time; we lost a peer among friends. Our difficulties were eased considerably when we welcomed Trevor Sizer

who made up our permanent staff complement to three. His work at the Cornish end of the Region has already begun to tell and we are using to the full his pre-Toc H professional experience with physically handicapped people and others. No sooner has Trevor had time to acquaint himself with most of the Region, it seems, than we are faced with the impending departure of Kevin Lindsay-Smith to the Mid-Eastern Region. We appreciate that this is a wise move for the Family and for Kevin's own experience but it takes us back to square one until a replacement can be found. It would be terrible if the Regional Chairman had to work too and now we are short of water.



(Above and below) A successful summer camp for the mentally handicapped was held at Compton Dundon in Somerset.



Photo: Evening Post, Bristol



Photos: Brian Walker

West Midlands & South Wales Region



The first copy of our Regional Bulletin for the year 1976 carried with it a New Year Message for all members to commit themselves to:

- new thinking about Toc H
- new attitudes towards Toc H
- new responsibilities for Toc H.

Prior to this, in November 1975, the Regional Executive Committee met at Dor Knap for a weekend to think about, and to discuss the purpose and the future of Toc H in the Region and a statement of policy 'The Way Ahead' was produced.

This emphasis on a new approach has been seen in projects and the Project Weekends (the responsibility of the Projects Committee) and the Leisure Weekends at Alison House under the leadership of the Regional Chairman, Marjorie Berry.

New again has been the activity associated with the Birmingham Centre. Opened in August, it has accommodation for five residents, the regional office, and an attractive guest room. Its Management Committee, on which all the residents and the domestic staff serve, meets monthly, first to attend a Corporate Communion

and then to deliberate. A reception for the neighbours provided an opportunity for some of them to meet for the first time, while on Christmas Day at the Centre nine elderly folk from the Cambridge Tower Community Flat (where Birmingham Toc H members assist each week) sat down to a traditional Christmas dinner.

The Cardiff Centre continues to be used by a very wide variety of groups and activities. Yardley House for Girls in Birmingham, the follow-on from Sheldon House, provides short-stay accommodation for up to four girls until such time as a permanent home is found for them. A member of the Regional staff and the Regional Secretary serve on its Management Committee.

The Region has welcomed two new members of staff: Ged Bates on 1 September and Gill Westwood on 1 January, while the work of George Lee and John Mitchell has been maintained, and at Dor Knap 'Tommy' Trinder continues to extend friendship to all.

New again was the jaunt of the Regional Chairman and Regional Secretary in October, when they welcomed the opportunity to meet members of the Coomb Cheshire Home, the West Wales District, Cardiff, and finally, in Gloucester, members from the Gloucester District. Their trip was completed when, with other members of the Regional Executive Committee, they took part in a sponsored walk at Ross-on-Wye. This, together with a second walk at Cardiff resulted in just over £500 for Regional funds.

In stressing the 'new approach', the loyal and faithful service given by many members throughout the Region must not be forgotten. Some are now instanced, while others of equal value go unrecorded: Cirencester and Cardiff with their Jig-saw

libraries for the elderly; Wall Heath's achievement in taking six coachloads of old folk to Ironbridge; South Staffs & Wulfrun (Penn Branch) gave an equipped telephone trolley to the Royal Hospital at Wolverhampton; and Presteigne with its annual party for the over 60s — all illustrate the caring aspect of our Movement.

Co-operation with other organisations resulted in the provision by Gloucester Branch of five geriatric chairs to the Lonsdale Centre for the Physically Handicapped; Netherton presented two ripple beds and a television set to the local hospital; while Marches District has continued to operate the Holiday Chalet at Clarech Bay, and financial support to the

Birmingham Outward Group has been given by the North Worcester and the Birmingham Districts.

Diamond Jubilee celebrations were held in all parts of the Region ranging from a large gathering at Margam Abbey to the provision of a teak seat for visitors by Broadway Branch.

In conclusion we are very conscious of our shortcomings and that much more could have been achieved, and we are reminding ourselves of the words of Sir Francis Drake: 'It is not the beginning, but the continuing of the same until it be thoroughly finished which yieldeth the true glory'.

Performing at the Cotswold Festival in 1975 at Dor Knap, Broadway, were (below) children of the Latchmere Junior School Steel Band, Battersea. Photos on the next page show (left) Moseley and District Council of Churches Drama Group performing Macbeth and (right) Elizabeth Twistington Higgins's Chelmsford Dancers at the Festival Evensong in St Eadburgha's Church, Broadway.



Photo: Scott Shaw

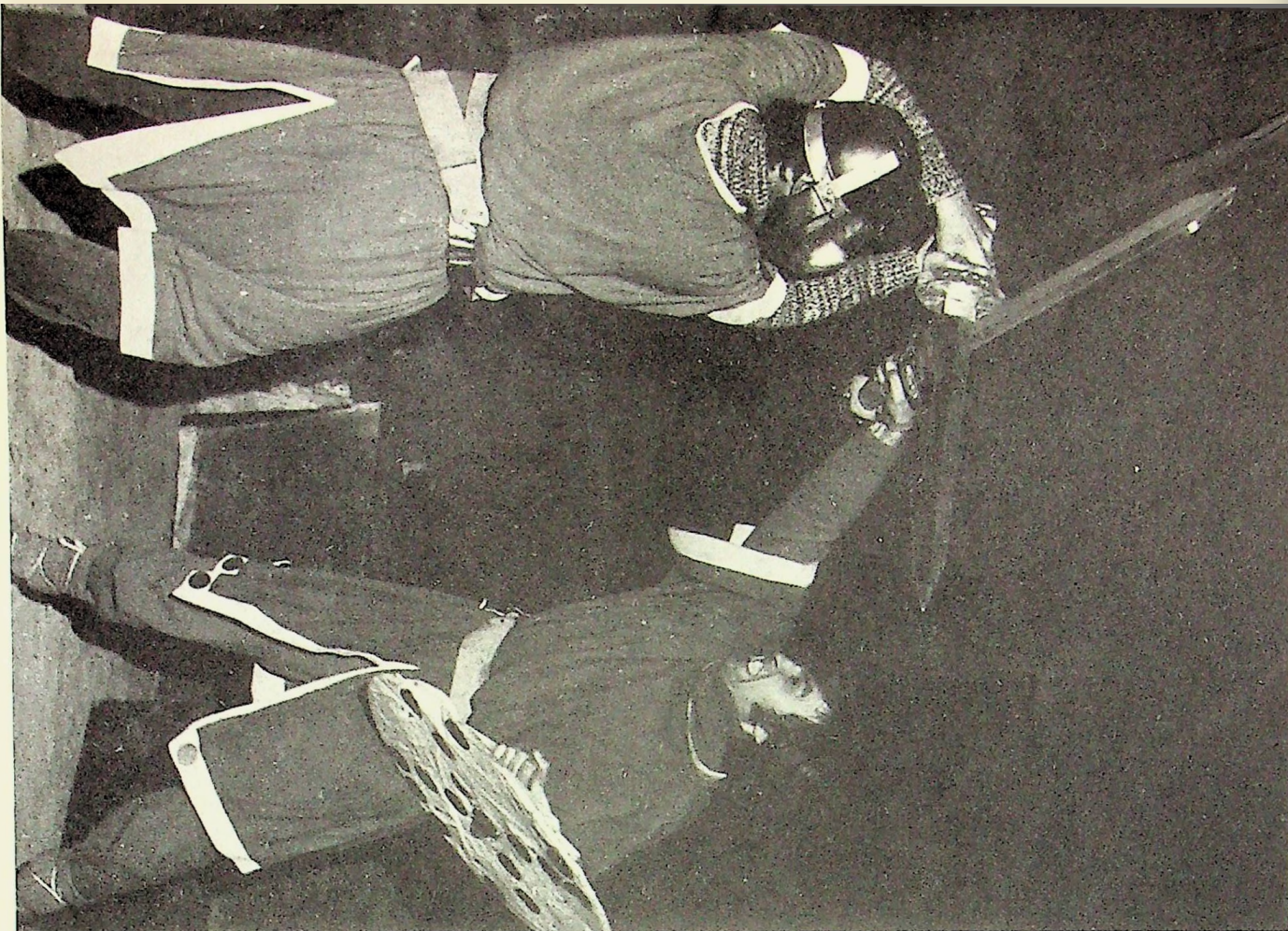


Photo: Scott Shaw

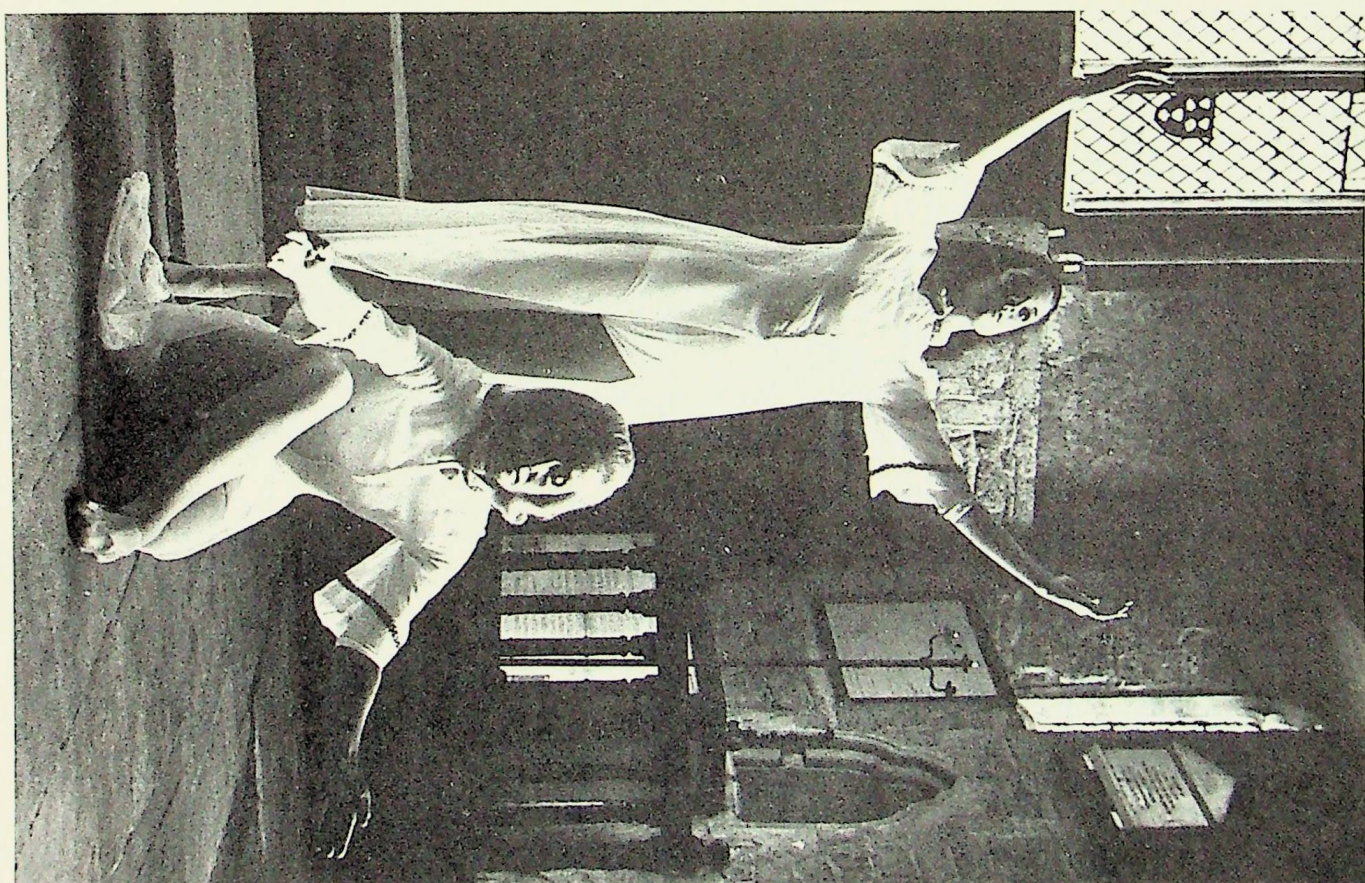


Photo: Jacquie Sergeant

Scottish Region



There are three major projects planned for summer '76 which could really put Toc H on the map in Scotland: an ambitious six-week playscheme in Glenrothes New Town, a month's playscheme in Dumbarton, and a publicity week called 'The Festival of Friendship', in Eyemouth. These schemes are offering Scottish members a vital opportunity to catch the imagination and enthusiasm of the public and could be used as excellent vehicles for extension.

The Glenrothes and Dumbarton playschemes have resulted from the initiative of staff member Lilian Ayres, who has worked closely for some months with voluntary agencies and with the Development Corporation in Glenrothes, and for a longer period with the social services in Dumbarton. Toc H is fortunate to have the goodwill and support of these statutory services, which have bent over backwards to help. Many volunteers who are interested in Toc H are taking part in these projects, but membership involvement is limited.

Skelmorlie Branch decided this summer to take a wee jaunt up Windy Hill in the Scottish Regional Park at Muirshiel. Not a bad idea!

The new member of staff, Gordon Macrae, is taking over Lilian's responsibility in Dumbarton and plans are going ahead to establish a community house, staffed by a long-term volunteer. Toc H is now poised to make an important contribution to the Dumbarton community and the future of the Movement in the south west of Scotland may well depend upon it.

The Eyemouth Festival has been planned by the Borders District, a large part being played by Eyemouth Branch under the leadership of Jimmie Campbell (the new Regional Chairman). An exciting programme of dances and discos, football matches, beauty contests, bazaars and

fayres is staged for the last week in June, all designed to attract the hordes of holidaymakers who come to Eyemouth every summer. This is a publicity event which has managed to interest Border Television and which promises to be a great success.

At the other end of the country, Nairn Branch, a lone unit in the Highland Region, is planning to take a group of handicapped children on holiday to Stonehaven.

The vast distances between units in Scotland pose a great problem and make any kind of co-ordinated effort very

difficult. The Movement is suffering from old age and during the past year has lost three branches. However a lively new women's branch has started in Edinburgh, whose members are all over 65.

It is vital for all Districts and branches to look into all aspects of extension and really try to bring in younger members. We do not merely require more members to perpetuate the Movement, but the bigger the membership, the greater chance we will have of meeting our financial commitments. At the moment our 387 members would have to send £13.50 per head to the Regional Treasurer to make us solvent — so our need to extend is very great indeed.



Photo: Greenock Telegraph

AT THE CENTRE

Staff Changes

The year under review saw a considerable number of new staff appointments, giving an overall increase in the number of full-time staff, with all of the new appointments being deployed into the Regions with the exception of John Sowerby, who became Development Officer, BAOR, on 1 March 1976. Trevor Sizer moved into the South Western Region based near Plymouth, and Suzan Leigh went to the

North Eastern Region to work in the Ecumenical Project at Middlesbrough. Ged Bates and Gill Westwood joined the West Midlands and South Wales Region, based in Birmingham and Cardiff respectively, while Michael Plumb at Broughton and Jim Waltham in Warrington reinforced the North Wales and North West Region. In the South East Region Paul Cole took over Mark 20 (Putney), Jeff Bird and Penny Green joined the staff working

from Crutched Friars, and Rev Edgar Wallace took up a field appointment based on Crawley. North of the border Gordon Macrae joined the Scottish Regional staff to work on the Western side of the country from his home at Larbert.

On the departure side Ian Russell and Jane Whitmore left us to take up other appointments, while Chris Grainger-Evans, Colin Campbell, Harold Smith, Kathleen

Ferguson ('Fergie') and Harry Olver all retired during the first half of the year. Between them they had amassed a tremendous record of service to the Movement, and they took with them our thanks, our love, and our hopes for a long and happy retirement. It is with much sadness that we have to record the passing of both 'Fergie' and Harry Olver within a short time of their retirement, and we remember them with love, gratitude, and thanksgiving.

Public Relations

Everything was all right on the day but there were many panics and patches necessary before Toc H was ready to face its public on the celebration of its Diamond Jubilee. A great deal of work and energy came from the public relations office, and invaluable assistance was given by Scott Shaw, the PR Assistant at Wendover. Many others put themselves at our disposal, in particular Don Lockhart, who provided much skill and wisdom for the exhibition.

Topic on Tape went successfully through its experimental period and has been complimented and enlarged. A decision was made to subsidise the costs, which brings the series within reach of every branch.

A new leaflet has been discussed and will make its appearance in 1976, against Regional demand. Consideration of Regional needs will be incorporated into the design.

The Anstey Toc H Band played to friends and members at the Garden Party held at Headquarters in Wendover, Bucks.



Photo: Scott Shaw

Toc H T-shirts will be making an appearance again soon, along with brushed nylon sweatshirts and singlets, and we hope these will be worn by all age groups. Other items suitable for publicising the Movement in a low key advertising style will also be available, including a range of adhesive and pin-on flags.

The office had a part to play in the introduction of the new tape/slide presentations about Toc H and would wish to record its gratitude to Regional representatives who gave valuable help in formulating the ideas for this new series.

Press and radio contacts were used well in the year and many staff and members were provided with opportunities to feature either on radio or news releases. We owe a debt to those who cheerfully reported at 6 am on cold mornings to a radio station and gave a lively account of the Movement.

Projects publicity continues to support the need for volunteers very well and there are signs that media are beginning to look for news about Toc H summer activities. We received a very good press from regional newspapers and some national circulation magazines.

Apart from acting as an ideas pool, PR staff carried out a full diary of Regional visits in the year and provided on-the-spot advice for many publicity events: notably the Youth Service Exhibition in Norwich, extension in South Yorkshire and the publicity for the Hackney Youth Centre, opened by our Vice Patron, The Hon Angus Ogilvy. The accumulated knowledge of PR staff has been shared pretty well equally all over the country and the increasing confidence of branches in using display and publicity is encouraging.

The print room continues to make a vital contribution to the life of Toc H. New

Rotaprint equipment has been installed and the efforts of Elsie Turner and Mary Hawken to give the very best in print service are to be applauded.

The most significant advance has been the inclusion of two independent consultants in the public relations debate. Clearly there needs to be a serious debate in Toc H about the patterns of Regionalisation emerging, the kind of future the Movement seeks, and the role of the CEC. Devolution of responsibility means that the centre must think harder about national direction, and this must be achieved before we can establish a workable communications policy for the Movement as a whole. The public relations advisory group, through its consultants, has exposed the failure of both national and regional representatives to grasp the true nature of the importance of modern communication techniques in policy making and interpretation of decisions. Regions must now pursue, as a matter of urgency, the setting up of public relations groups linked directly with the CEC and acting through the national PR advisory group. Without such a guarantee and some measure of control over regional publicity ideas, the risk that regionalisation will mean fragmentation is very great.

Point Three

In February 1976 a new style of magazine was introduced in order to save production costs and improve design. Composing the text at Wendover and printing by lithography allowed the price to be held at 10p and the new 16-page A4 format was very well received by the readership.

The November 1975 edition of *Point Three* won an Award of Excellence in the National Competition for House Journals held by the British Association of Industrial Editors. It is good to have this

expression of professional confidence in the Movement's magazine but it would be even better if every member actually read it – and used it imaginatively for publicity purposes. At the moment the investment of money, time and effort put into *Point Three* is not being fully realised.

Winant and Clayton Volunteers

The rapid rise in costs forced us to consider the future of the scheme very seriously. Many former volunteers helped us either by direct donations or by fund-raising, and by acting as hosts for Winant volunteers, so renewing their involvement with the scheme. In fact, the worries about finance seem to have served to rejuvenate the programme, and have made us very optimistic about the future.

We sent a group of 19 volunteers to the United States, four of whom had been involved with Toc H before. Several were working with children, in situations ranging from play activities on the streets to introducing them to facilities available in a museum. Others were involved in rehabilitation programmes for the mentally ill, and ex-drug addicts. We had 26 Winant volunteers who came to this country, working in Manchester, Liverpool, London, Swindon, Newbury, St Neots, St Athans and Poole; and two of them worked on the Toc H playscheme in Basingstoke. Among the most successful placements were those with children at Family Service Units in the London area. Two of the volunteers who were placed in Liverpool have stayed on in this country to continue the work they started during the summer. We also had two volunteers from the Toc H project in California.

We would like to encourage more people who have already been involved in Toc H to go as Clayton volunteers and we are also keen for more of the Winants to work alongside Toc H in this country.

Bordon Company

The growing importance of the Bordon Company is being seen afresh. Consultations with many members point the way to widening concepts and making the regular newsletter and devotional matter available to all, through *Point Three*. It is encouraging to realise that many see the whole future of Toc H dependant on maintaining its spiritual core.

For those who do not know, family prayers are said daily at Headquarters at 10.25 am and daily intercessions for the work of Toc H are also made at All Hallows. This is a joyful thing and helps to bring a right perspective into our life and work.

The Old House

A delegation of 33 people from Poperinge and four from Wolnzach, Poperinge's 'twin town' in Germany, attended the Diamond Jubilee Festival in London at the end of May. Two weeks later, a party numbering 100 Toc H members attended the special Jubilee Weekend in Poperinge arranged by the town to mark the 60 years since the opening of Talbot House. In December, the World Chain of Light Vigil started at The Old House, when a group of 11 members from England and one from South Africa participated, joined by many of our Belgian friends.

In December, the Central Executive Committee agreed an expenditure of £40,000 to modernise The Old House by providing bathrooms, toilets and washing facilities in the House, with separate accommodation for the housekeeper. Building work is due to begin later this year. The total number of 'bed nights' was slightly more than the previous year, ie 915 in comparison with 885. Grants

The Dean of St Bertin's Church Poperinge with Rev Bob Knight, at the Old House Jubilee Garden Party in Poperinge, Belgium, in June 1975.



from central funds totalled £900: £600 towards running expenses and £300 to cover the wardens' expenses.

Alison House

Bookings during the year have been good with about half of the weekends and longer periods taken up by Toc H or Toc H sponsored groups. Winter bookings were fewer and cancellations greater than in previous years due, it is thought, to people being unable to afford winter visits.

The house and greenhouses suffered considerable damage in the gales in January and subsidence affected the cottage which was costly to repair.

The garden party in September last year brought together many members from neighbouring counties as well as involving the local community. £600 was raised which has enabled some over-due redecoration to be carried out in the house.

Extensive fire precaution work has become necessary in the house, cottage and annexe. This will incur heavy expenditure.

The Management Committee is again greatly indebted to Bill Charlesworth and Stuart Greaves of the Nottingham City Branch for regular help given during the year in the grounds and with decorating in the house.

Dor Knap

After several years we have been obliged finally to increase our accommodation charges to offset the continual all-round increase in costs. However, this did not prevent a rise in overnight bookings to 1,126 in 1975.

In each Annual Report we like to record some improvements either in the house

or grounds. This year another generous grant from the Langdale Trust has enabled us to have the last, and worst, section of the drive asphalted. The moribund electric cooker on which Tommy and Dorothy Trinder performed unfailing miracles has now been replaced by a new model, thanks largely to the Friends of Dor Knap.

Highlight of the whole year was undoubtedly the Cotswold Festival of Arts and Music in September, a weekend which was prefaced by a memorable open-air ballet performance by Elizabeth Twistington Higgins's dancers at Broadway Court on the Friday night.

Port Penrhyn

The conversion of the old slate warehouse at Port Penrhyn, near Bangor, North Wales, into a Toc H Centre was well advanced at the end of the year under review and the first parties will be using the Centre in the autumn. This new Centre was one of the two objects of the Diamond Jubilee appeal.

The Centre has sailing dinghies, canoes and climbing equipment, for parties with suitable leadership, so that advantage may be taken of its situation, right on the water and within easy reach of the mountains of Snowdonia. Other parties will go to walk and talk, to sing or take photographs, and to enjoy the experience of living together and learning from each other.

Diamond Jubilee

Toc H celebrated '60 years of love and laughter' in Diamond Jubilee festivities throughout the country in 1975. The national Festival in London in May took as its theme the continuing spirit of Toc H. The methods and activities of Toc H have changed many times but the spirit, we firmly believe, remains unchanged. This

Photo: Bob Broeder

The last Annual Report announced the setting up of a fund in thanksgiving for our Diamond Jubilee. The appeal was launched at the Jubilee celebrations in London. A target of £37,500 was set to meet the cost of building a well and health

A large crowd of people, mostly children and young adults, is gathered on a tiered outdoor stage or platform. They are dressed in mid-20th-century attire. In the background, a building with a sign that reads "ICE CREAM" is visible. The scene appears to be a public event or performance.

Well begun is half done, as the old saying goes. In order to complete the second half the same generous and sustained efforts will be needed in the coming months. There are many pressures on members, branches and districts to give for branch work and regional expenses, but to raise the remainder in time for the World Chain of Light on 11/12 December, and to bring the two projects into use.

TOC H HEALTH AND WELFARE CENTRE
To the glory of God
AND IN LOVING REMEMBRANCE OF
REV. P. B. CLAYTON, M.C., C.H.O.D.
 FOUNDER PADRE OF TOC H
 DIRECTED BY TOC H INDIA WITH FUNDS PROVIDED BY
 TOC H (UK) UNITED KINGDOM
 AS ONE OF THEIR OVERSEAS PROJECTS
 CELEBRATING THE DIAMOND JUBILEE OF TOC H
 AND MAINTAINED BY A GIFT OF THIRU
 BY THIRU K. VELLAICHAMY REDDIAR of PANAMA
 THIS FOUNDATION STONE WAS LAID ON 17 MAY 1965
 BY THIRU M. VAITHILINGAM I.A.S.
 COLLECTOR OF TIRUCHIRAPPALLI
 (Rt. Rev. S. JOSEPH CURADANBY)
 Bishop of Tiruchirappalli
 And Dr. Manikavasagam C.S.I.
 TOC H
 TAMIL NADU BRANCH
 (Dr. M. S. SIVAKUMAR)
 Secy. to the Foundation Stone
 Tiruchirappalli

Interest payments and further donations brought the total of gifts received to £34,088. Grants and expenses reduced that total by £3,471 at 31 March. A further £3,200 in grants has been allocated. New trustees of Toc H, Mrs Betty Cornick and John Callf, appointed by the Central Council, have joined Sir James Brown, Sir Miles Clifford and George Liddle as trustees of the fund. They continue to invite applications for grants which can be made within the terms of the trust.

Meanwhile, in Pannikampatti, South India, the foundation stone of the Jubilee Health and Welfare Centre is unveiled.

SERVICES WORK

BAOR

The turnover of the Services Clubs continues to rise, indicating that the service is much appreciated. A chapel has been opened at Munster and from the same Club, a kiosk will shortly commence serving the isolated station at Wulfen near the Dutch border. In Berlin, the long established service to the guard mounted at Spandau Prison has been passed to nearer hands but a further block of married quarters is now covered by our mobiles. Our service at Wolfenbittel has doubled in popularity. Restructuring of the Army does not seem to have affected Clubs adversely.

Supplies to our Clubs have been provided for 30 years by the CVWW Stores Pool administered by the YMCA. At the end of 1975 the operation stopped because of strictures on capital. Toc H is fortunate to have on its staff someone with excellent buying skills — Angus Laing — who will be setting up a Toc H Buying Agency in Berlin. We are confident that supplies will be maintained in the future.

It is not possible to include mention of every Club in a short report but the staff in BAOR should be thanked for their wholehearted support in a very difficult economic climate.

Toc H can be proud of the initiative it has taken in running playschemes in BAOR. In 1976 we hear of six schemes backed by the voluntary movement (four by Toc H); no doubt some garrisons are running their own. 1975 was the year when we asked 'what now?', as the idea of playschemes was established.

Isolation has always been the problem of Services work, so different and distant from the grass roots activities of the Movement. Playschemes as projects formed a fragile link with UK policy and we learned many lessons. One of these was that the local community group necessary for the continuity of the playschemes could become more important than the playschemes themselves and, if nurtured, could undertake wider responsibilities within the community.

Toc H has decided that BAOR does offer possibilities for spreading a practical Christian influence within Army communities and to spearhead the task, John Sowerby, lately warden of Paderborn and the instigator of the first BAOR playscheme, has been appointed Development Officer. John will oversee playschemes and seek Toc H commitment over a wide area — a difficult but exciting task. Only Tubby can be said to have tackled the Army in a like manner before — in Poperinge!

It's a Womble party! Fun and games for children of Service families at Paderborn. Toc H runs various playschemes during the summer months in BAOR when young volunteers fly out from Britain to organise activities for the children. Many parents now continue these schemes after the Toc H volunteers have gone home.

Talbot House, Southampton

The year under review saw no dramatic changes in Talbot House. Life went on at an even pace, hindered only occasionally by a staff problem or the medical/welfare requirements of the engineer cadets in residence, of whom there are 22. With two more beds taken for much of the period, there is almost 100% use of the accommodation.

In spite of this, it hasn't been possible to balance the books completely, with roaring inflation outstripping all our attempts, even with economies and raised rents. Private donors continue to give generously. Ships' charitable collections have not been maintained at the previous high level due to the decline in passenger vessels, but shipping companies nevertheless have supported us magnificently.

The club is still a focal point for various expressions of Toc H. Both the Southern Regional Executive and the Regional Council meet here. Friends from Toc H branches also call quite regularly. Nor must we forget the tremendous help from the branches themselves — especially Bitterne Women's and Milford-on-Sea Joint Branch. Both have helped the club financially and materially.

Finally, the cadets themselves have been eager and willing to help. Our own front garden was tidied up and the trees lopped, while later on, help of a similar nature was given to Gingerbread House. Then, to round things off, a few of the cadets took part in a sponsored swim to raise money for local handicapped children.



Photo: Roy Hart, PRO 4th Division BAOR

OVERSEAS

The Diamond Jubilee celebrations proved a great attraction, and over 40 overseas members attended the National Festival in London, representing Toc H in Argentina, South Africa, Rhodesia, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and India. In May we were delighted to have the opportunity of meeting Senator and Mrs Neville Bonner from Queensland. Senator Bonner, who is the first Aboriginal to be elected to the Australian Parliament, is a Vice-President of Toc H in Queensland and he made time to call at Crutched Friars and All Hallows during a very busy official visit to London.

Australia

Toc H Australia celebrated its Golden Jubilee during the weekend of the 25-26 October, when special thanksgiving services and Jubilee dinners were arranged in each of the six states. The Emergency Flashing Light scheme has continued to grow, with increasing help from other organisations. There have been no great gains or losses in membership during the year, but service has been kept at a high level. His Excellency, Sir John Kerr, Governor General of Australia, has consented to become patron of Toc H Australia. Most welcome Government assistance has been made available to finance construction and renovation work at the Point Lonsdale Camp in Victoria and to subsidise the salary of the Youth Work Co-ordinator in South Australia. Peter Hall resigned as Youth Work Co-ordinator in January and he has been succeeded by Miss Heather Coulter. Under her guidance, the youth activities of Toc H will continue to offer a challenge and a chance to help young

people find their place in society. Coungeau House, the Toc H holiday home on Bribie Island, is being used extensively to provide seaside holidays at a peppercorn rent for many groups of elderly folk and under-privileged families.

New Zealand

Toc H New Zealand also celebrated its Golden Jubilee with an Anniversary Conference at Christchurch during the weekend 6-8 June. The weekend ended with a service in Christchurch Cathedral, at which the address was given by Philip Liner, Dominion Chairman of Toc H. His Excellency The Governor General of New Zealand has accepted the office of Dominion Patron for Toc H. The Very Rev Walter Hurst, Dean of Wellington and Vicar of St Paul's Cathedral District, has accepted the position of Dominion Padre following the resignation of the Rev Jock Kinloch, who has moved to Tauranga. In February, Toc H New Zealand suffered a great loss in the death of their active and enthusiastic Dominion Secretary, Ken Gandy, following a long illness. The Toc H Track and Field Club celebrated their 21st birthday in October. The Flashing Light Scheme, which began in New Zealand last year under the name of 'Lightline', has continued to expand. A new Toc H group has been formed in Auckland. During January, Toc H in Christchurch ran three week-long holiday camps for over 100 children.

India

The Jubilee Project at Pannikampatti was inaugurated on 31 May, the same day as the London Festival. The found-

ation stone for the Health and Welfare Centre was laid at Pannikampatti by the Collector of Tiruchirapalli District. The well is now almost completed and work will commence on the buildings very shortly. Toc H India celebrated its Golden Jubilee with a special Jubilee weekend in Madras in October. The annual meeting of the India Council took place on 24 January, when the present Board of Trustees was re-elected for a further year.

South Africa

Although membership amongst the white South Africans remains fairly static, the development amongst black members has continued to such an extent that a second African staff man, Mlungisi Ndamase, was appointed in February to work in the Transkei. The Rev Quentin Ferrey left the staff at the end of July to take up an appointment in industry. Black Toc H members for the third time converged at the Toc H Recreation Centre in Meadowlands over the Easter weekend, attracting an attendance of 71 members from different parts of the country. The Toc H Charity Gift Shops have had a most successful year and a new shop has been opened at Benoni, with the backing of a new Toc H group, making a total of five Gift Shops. Toc H South Africa is now getting a regular share of the profits from the shops for development work. The first Toc H Clinic and Health Centre at Emolweni, one of the villages encircling Ethembeni in the Valley of a Thousand Hills, now part of the South African homeland of Kwa-Zulu, has been completed and started functioning in

May. The Golden Jubilee Project has been modified and instead of building a new centre in Soweto the Meadowlands Centre, which is already operating very effectively, will be expanded and its activities developed.

Rhodesia

Jacaranda House, a home for elderly people, has been leased to Toc H and was opened in April. The house is now full, with a complement of six married couples and eight single ladies. Petrol rationing in Rhodesia has created difficulties for Toc H, both in carrying out jobs and in attending meetings.

Lone branches

During the year, personal links have been made between a number of lone branches: members from the Argentine, Canada and Belgium visiting England, members from Rhodesia visiting Hong Kong, and members from England visiting Jamaica, Canada, Paris and the Community Concern project in California. Lesotho members have continued to meet and work closely with Toc H South Africa.

THE ACCOUNTS

Accounts

For economy the detailed audited accounts have been produced at Wendover. Copies are available on request.

Regionalisation

This year has seen a change in our accounting analysis system in order to provide Regional Executive Committees with Regional information.

The Central Executive accepted the responsibility for Regional salaries, pensions and provision of housing, where applicable,

and challenged the membership to raise from all sources sufficient income to meet their own Regional overheads.

The membership must be congratulated, because overall, the Regional Income has exceeded the Regional overhead Expenditure by £3,306.

Total Income and Expenditure

	Income from all sources	Expenditure	Net cost to Family Purse
Mid Eastern	8,952	20,004	11,052
North East	4,903	17,422	12,519
N Wales/N West	6,517	21,459	14,942
Scotland	1,364	12,465	11,101
Southern	5,190	14,636	9,446
South East	16,499	46,035	29,536
South West	5,312	14,963	9,651
W Mids/S Wales	4,279	17,004	12,725
	£53,016	£163,988	£110,972
Headquarters	—	115,105	115,105
Central	244,462	119,110	(125,352)
	£297,478	£398,203	£100,725
31 March 1975	£270,868	£321,887	£51,019
An increase this year of:	9.82%	23.70%	97.43%

EXPENDITURE
£398,203

CENTRAL
£119,110 30%

HEADQUARTERS
£115,015 29%

REGIONS
£163,988 41%

Please help
to top me up!

DEFICIT £100,725

INCOME £297,478

CENTRAL £244,462

REGIONS £53,016

INCOME

With the exception of central donations and overseas members subscriptions, all income from members, branches, builders and donations together with tax recovered on Deeds of Covenant has been included in Regional Income and totals £53,016.

Membership giving averaged £3.61 compared with £3.59 last year.

In addition to this the membership has raised £15,000 for the Diamond Jubilee Fund. If these special efforts are repeated each year the financial assistance to the Family Purse will be tremendous and who knows what other benefits will accrue.

Investments

We have not this year transferred any investment income to capital and the market has shown a marked recovery in values.

The investment income for the year was £194,443, 70.34% of our total income.

Legacies

Totalled £53,020, the largest amount ever received in a year. The 10 year average included in the Income and Expenditure Account is £22,079. If our income from this source is to be maintained, the current generation of members and builders ought to consider a bequest to Toc H. Details of the wording of such bequests are printed in the diary or can be obtained from Headquarters.

A complete list of legacies is shown separately.

EXPENDITURE

The total cost of maintaining the Family of Toc H during the year was £398,203, an increase of £76,316 over last year. Part of this increase was due to inflation and part due to the Central Executive Committee's expansionist policy of increasing the number of field staff who, with all our help, will increase the membership.

Salaries

The staff complement in the Regions was increased by seven. A new salary scale was implemented from 1 April 1975 to take account of the fast rising cost of living. Salaries £198,518, together with superannuation payments of £5,860, made a total cost of staff £204,378 – 51% of our expenditure.

Pensions

All our pensioners were granted a 20% increase, and we are very conscious of the future cost of pensions for an increased staff with continuing inflation.

Travelling

Although overall our expenditure has risen by 23.70% we have been able to contain the increase in travelling costs to 13.35%. One reason for this is that additional numbers enable the field staff to work in a more concentrated area.

Before we ask staff to visit us, we should ask the question 'Is their journey really necessary?'

Training (including Dor Knap)

Cost £4,855, of which £3,254 was the deficit at Dor Knap, an improvement on last year.

We are indebted to the 'Friends of Dor Knap' who provide many extras for the house as well as contributing towards improvements and equipment.

Overseas

Support for Australia £3,000, New Zealand £3,000 and South Africa £2,500 has continued.

Rents, rates and insurance

The sharp rise in these costs is due to rates being levied on Mark 1 as an empty property, all other rates being increased and increases in our insurance premiums due to a revaluation of replacement costs of our freehold premises.

Post and telephone

The continual increase in these charges is of constant concern. This year's figure of £13,129 shows an increase of 38%. All staff are reminded that calls are cheaper after 1 pm and that they must exercise self control over the length of calls.

Repairs and renewals, office furniture and equipment

During the year a new Off-set Litho printing machine was purchased as were new typewriters for Headquarters and Regional staff.

Conferences

Central Council at Swanwick and Staff Conference at Blackpool cost over £2,000. We must all make sure that the Movement gets value for its money from the content and outcome of such Conferences.

'Topic on Tape'

The production of this information service for branches continued during the year, and in order to encourage a wider use the annual subscription for four programmes has been reduced to £1.

Deficit on publications

The deficit on *Point Three* has risen to £6,874. The new method of production commenced in February and savings will

be reflected in the current year. Additional circulation is one safeguard against rising costs. **Do you have 'Point Three' each month?** A new publication to replace *Vista* was produced for Jubilee Year, *Society needs compassion more than competition*. Sales have been very disappointing and large stocks are held.

Grants

Totalling £13,552 were made and included Alison House: £2,949; Poperinge: £900; Hackney Youth Centre: £3,500. In addition the CEC agreed to relieve the Regions of the deficits of £5,246 on Marks 5, 6 and 24, prior to closure or change of use.

Tape/slide programme

The cost of production and equipment for this new form of communication was £7,612. It is proving an invaluable visual aid to our field staff.

Diamond Jubilee

The cost to the Family Purse of the wonderful Jubilee was £2,791. If the opportunities this gave us are built on, it will have been a first class investment.

CAPITAL

Accumulated Fund This has increased by £60,718.

Fund at 31 March 1975		£	2,699,116
Add Receipts in respect of completed developments	491		
Profit on sales of properties	109,683		
Profit on sales of investments	289		
Property acquired: Hackney Youth Centre	23,465	133,928	
			2,833,044
Add Legacies received	53,020		
Less paid to branches and other work	3,426		
Transfer to Income and Expenditure	22,079	25,505	27,515
			2,860,559
Less Net Deficit for the year ended 31 March 1976			100,725
			£2,759,834

Investments

During the year our investment portfolio was rearranged. Low yielding Government stocks were sold and higher yielding redeemable stocks were purchased. These adjustments and the climbing market have made our investments look more healthy and there has been an increasing income from the investments held throughout the year in addition to the income from the new purchases.

The increase on the value of our investments since the beginning of the year is £110,486. Our total portfolio stands at £1,544,890. (Market valuation £1,399,173 = 90.56%.)

Bank deposit

The balance at the close of the year was £700,000.

Properties and motor vehicles

The total book value of these assets stands at £658,440.

Properties freehold	£634,671
Properties leasehold	2,244
Motor vehicles	21,525
	£658,440

During the year the following properties were purchased or acquired: Moseley Centre; Leicester Centre; staff houses at Winchester, Terrick and Crawley; Mark 3 Youth Centre. Capital improvements were carried out at the Croydon Centre and on some of the Marks.

Properties sold: staff houses at Barnet, Gosport and Tonbridge; Mark 6, Birmingham; Mark 22, Denmark Hill.

Diamond Jubilee Fund

The contributions to the fund do not appear in this year's accounts as the fund is still open.

Future Capital Commitment

Talbot House, Poperinge — £40,000: To convert the 'slessorium' into a house for the Warden and family, to provide bathrooms and toilets on each floor and to provide a kitchen for the use of residents thus making self-catering possible.

Mark 1 — Notting Hill — £25,000: The Central Executive has approved a scheme to bring the property up to standard, including fire precautions. It will then be used as a self-catering hostel for Bangladesh students.

Comment

Again congratulations to the membership for meeting the CEC challenge to raise sufficient money to cover Regional overheads. Our sympathies go to the Regions who did not quite make it, but perhaps another couple of Special Efforts will close the gap this year.

Deeds of Covenant are the most painless way of increasing income. Remember each £1 covenanted is worth £1.54 pence.

To the branches who have large sums of money laying idle at the Bank, why not loan this to Toc H to help our cash flow? Details of interest rates will gladly be supplied.

LEGACIES

We are deeply grateful for the following legacies received during the year ended 31 March 1976:

Miss M B Bagnall	28,853
A F Blake	1,125
J S Bousfield	100
A W Brocks	50
W F Bushell	500
Miss F L Cleton	3
Mrs A P Dowsett	100
J E Elliott	230
H W Goldsmith	100
P Gorton	25
Mrs D Grainger	100
Mrs G Hasleham	41
Miss D G Hewitt	14,913
Miss L J Hirst	5
D G Hislop	500
R M G Inglis	500
Mrs R H Justice	145
Mrs A M G Kennedy	50
Miss F R Lamplough	500
Miss S M Milne	50
Miss M E J Morgan	245
Miss K N Owen	500
Mrs J G Parr	100
I T Ratcliffe	250
R E Godwin Read	10
E Rollig	100
Miss E Russell	25
Miss E M Savory	500
Mrs D I Thirkell	500
S B Thresher	1,100
Mrs I G Wade	126
F G Wallis	22
Col Granville Walton	125
Miss V J Welch	25
W W Winters	1,502
	£53,020

SERVICES WORK

BAOR

The staff at the Clubs must be congratulated for another good year's trading figures resulting in an increased profit from £9,030 to £22,962.

It will be noted with interest that trading costs in Germany have only risen by 7.15% during the year.

	1975/76	1974/75	Increase	%
Sales	709,273	614,292	94,981	15.46
Purchases	503,460	434,608	68,852	15.84
Gross Profit	205,813	179,684	26,129	14.54
Trading Costs	182,851	170,654	12,197	7.15
Net Profit	<u>£22,962</u>	<u>£9,030</u>	<u>£13,932</u>	<u>154.28</u>
% Net Profit	<u>3.24</u>	<u>1.47</u>		

Talbot House Young Seafarers'

Residential Club: We are most grateful for the support given to the Club by the King George's Fund for Sailors £3,000 (an increase of £500) and the Merchant Navy Welfare Board £575, for improvements to the kitchen. Without this help the Club would be in a very sticky financial situation.

The deficit for the year was £1,076. Deficit last year £1,618. By transferring £500 from their Repairs Reserve Account, the final deficit charged to the Services Fund is £576.

Talbot House, Poperinge

The Accounts of The Old House have not previously been in the Annual Report, but in view of the large capital sum being expended on improvements, we feel some comment is justified.

The cost to Toc H of running the house for the year was £3,907. Income from residents amounted to £1,115, which together with income from endowments, support of the Friends of The Old House both in UK and Belgium, a grant from the Family Purse and donations, amounted to £3,768, leaving a deficit for the year of £139.

When the improvements are completed it is hoped that more parties will visit Poperinge, and help to develop Toc H in Belgium.

QUESTIONS

We will be pleased to answer any questions you may have on the Accounts. It would be of great assistance if these were sent to us at least ten days before the Central Council meeting, please.

CONCLUSIONS

Thanks must be recorded to all who deal with finance for the Movement at all levels.

We are all stewards of our time, talents and possessions. In this inflationary society, we must exercise stringent stewardship on our possessions so as to leave our successors the wherewithal to carry on 'the good thing thus begun'.

Gerry Ashfield *Honorary Treasurer*
George Barnett *Finance Secretary*

FROM THE DIRECTOR

The wide variety of exciting new projects on which Toc H has embarked is stressed in this report. A document of this kind naturally, and rightly, emphasises those major activities which are leading us into new fields of concern and to some of which substantial resources are committed.

And yet the less dramatic activities of branches and groups throughout the country are no less important. Toc H is not primarily concerned with Community Service, which too often sounds like something special, demanding special people. It is about the simple, ordinary ways in which neighbours help each other. It is about developing the 'good neighbourliness' which makes a community worth living in.

At a deep level Toc H is concerned with relationships. It is a deliberate attempt to combat the impersonality of modern society by bringing together groups where people can really meet each other, where we can break down the barriers — of class, of age, of race — which so often keep people apart, where we don't have to put on an act but can feel free to be ourselves, because we know that we are accepted as we are.

We don't delude ourselves by thinking that this is an easy task, nor that we always succeed. But we know that the attempt is infinitely worthwhile. This is not something that can be presented in the dramatic terms required of an Annual Report. Indeed it can scarcely be put into words at all. But those of us who have experienced the depth of relationships that is sometimes attained know its reality and know that it underlies everything that is recorded here.

At a time of increased polarisation between classes and races, at a time when great numbers of people feel a deadening sense of powerlessness, feel in the grip of a vast machine that they can neither influence nor control, the importance of this attempt to share the significance of personal relationships is far greater than its small scale might suggest. If only a few people have rediscovered a sense of their own value, have learned that they can, in a small way, improve the quality of life for themselves and those around them, then an important contribution has been made.

There is much in this Report to excite us, much of which we can be proud. But the heart of Toc H, and its real significance, lies in the groups of people who, in all their diversity, discover a 'oneness' that can't be described but only experienced.

Ken Prideaux-Brune
Director

THE CENTRAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF TOCH 1975-6

Chairman: C A Cattell
Hon Treasurer: G W Ashfield
Director: K Prideaux-Brune MA
Headquarters Padre: The Rev J H Hull
General Secretary: G A Francis

E L Abbiss	J G Lewis
R C Coates	A G Michael
Mrs A M Cook JP	J R Morgan
J C Cutt	D K J Ratcliff
Mrs M M Edwards	Mrs J Rauch
A I Frymann JP	R Roberts MBE
T A R Gulliver	Rev C R Rudd
H L Hughes	Mrs O J Tennant
Mrs V E M Inglis	

THE HEADQUARTERS STAFF OF TOCH AS AT 1 SEPTEMBER 1976

Director: K Prideaux-Brune MA
Headquarters Padre: The Rev J H Hull
General Secretary: G A Francis
Assistant General Secretary: Miss J L Green
Finance Secretary: G E Barnett
Accountant: J B A Kirby
Public Relations Secretary: C H Gibbs MAIE
Editor 'Point Three': Mrs S C McWilliam BA
Registrar: G B Dixon
Marks and Properties Adviser: H D Mills MIEE FIHVE
Properties Secretary: J B Baverstock
International Secretary: Mrs G Lynn,
 42 Crutched Friars, London EC3N 2AL

Bankers: Barclays Bank Ltd, 20 Aylesbury Road,
 Wendover, Aylesbury, Bucks HP22 6JQ
Auditors: Hemsley Miller & Company
Hon Legal Advisers: Herbert Oppenheimer,
 Nathan & Vandyk
Solicitors: Ponsford & Devenish,
 Tivendale & Munday
Surveyors: Donaldson & Sons

Port Penrhyn Development Officer: I Taylor

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS TO 31 MARCH 1976

	1975/6	1974/5
Members	12,091	12,244
New members	558	606
Branches	896*	845
New branches	5	18
Branches closed	39	67
Groups	24	16
Builders	4,107	

* This figure includes District Branches formed automatically with effect from 1.4.1975.

THE REGIONAL STAFF OF TOCH AS AT 1 SEPTEMBER 1976

Mid-Eastern Region: J A Biggerstaff, J W Cliffe, Miss S Cumming, Mr and Mrs F Howlett, K Lindsay-Smith, Rev C M White

North Eastern Region: W W Bains, Rev P Bishop, A E Dudman, R Jackson, Miss S Leigh

North Wales and North West Region: A Daniels, M G L Plumb, F G Rice, J Waltham

Scottish Region: Mrs L Ayres, G L Macrae

Southern Region: Miss E J Bacon, H Buckle, J H W Forbes, Rev A G Knight, W Youngs

South Eastern Region: Miss J M Auton, J Bird, Miss C Bostock, W E Brittain, J Burgess, P Cole, P East, Miss P J Green, R F Mills, Rev M B Perkins, Rev E Wallace, Mrs C J Wood

South Western Region: Rev K M Beck, T W Sizer

West Midlands & South Wales Region: G Bates, G L Lee, J E Mitchell, C J Trinder, Mrs G Westwood

Services Clubs, BAOR

Commissioner: K R Rea DFM

Berlin: A Laing; *Munster:* D Woodall; *Paderborn:* Miss S E Henderson; *Verden:* L Harvie; *Wolfenbittel:* H Peyton-Bruhl

Development Officer: J Sowerby

THE OFFICERS OF TOCH

Headquarters 1 Forest Close, Wendover, Aylesbury, Bucks HP22 6BT

Patrons HM The Queen
HM Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother

Vice-Patron The Hon Angus Ogilvy

Presidents The Archbishop of Canterbury
Lt-Gen Sir Edmund Herring KCMG
The Lord Maclean Bt, KT, KBE
The Very Rev The Lord MacLeod MC, DD
L G O Prideaux-Brune
The Rt Hon Sir Robert Tredgold KCMG

Vice-Presidents The Rev K G Bloxham BD
C A G Brownjohn
The Viscount Cobham KG
The Bishop of Coventry
J Emmerson DCM
Robert Faulkner
Sir George Haynes CBE
Sir Frederick Hoare Bt
Arthur Lahaye
The Bishop of London
Wilfrid Lord
S J de Lotbinière CVO
P Hugh B Lyon MC
R E Donald McKenzie
G H Nash DCM
J Lyndsay Orr BL
Lt-Cdr George W Potter RN (retd)
The Rt Rev C K Sansbury DD
The Rt Rev David S Sheppard
Ronald S Symons CMG, CIE
The Rt Hon Richard Wood MP

Trustees Sir James Brown LLD
J Callf MC
Sir Miles Clifford KBE, CMG
Mrs B Cornick JP
G W U Liddle MBE

Headquarters Padre The Rev J H Hull

Hon Treasurer G W Ashfield

Director K Prideaux-Brune MA

General Secretary G A Francis



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